

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

November 15, 2006

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld  
Secretary  
Department of Defense  
The Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

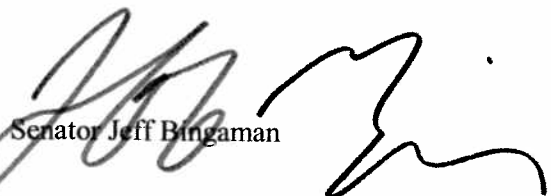
We write to urge action on a very important Military Construction project for Cannon Air Force Base (CAFB). Originally included in the FY06 Military Quality of Life/Veterans Affairs Appropriations legislation, this \$13.2 million project was included for the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) to "Replace Fuel Loading and Storage Facilities" at CAFB. It is our understanding, however, that, to date, progress on this project has been stalled. We strongly believe this MILCON project is of critical importance and request that this funding be released to allow this project to move forward.

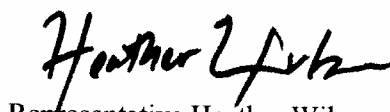
As you know, MILCON projects slated for CAFB were put on hold once CAFB was recommended for closure. When it was announced that CAFB would be the new home to the 16<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Wing from Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC), three other CAFB MILCON projects began moving forward. Specifically, progress has been made on the Aerospace Ground Equipment Complex, Dining Hall/Airmen's Center, and Housing Privatization projects. The Fuel Loading and Storage Facilities project is the only CAFB MILCON project that has yet to have funds released. We understand AFSOC analyzed the original project, validated it as suitable to its needs without modification, and certified that it will satisfy valid requirements for its operations at CAFB. AFSOC, accordingly, informed the Defense Logistics Agency of the need to release funding and initiate the project.

We eagerly anticipate the transition of CAFB to an AFSOC installation, and we look forward to assisting in that transition. We believe that progress on these important projects is necessary to ensure the men and women of AFSOC have the equipment and facilities they need to accomplish their mission. To that end, we respectfully urge the release of funds for the Fuel Loading and Storage Facilities project to further improve CAFB in preparation for the 16<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Wing assuming control of the base in October 2007.


We thank you for your attention to our request and are willing to answer any questions you may have.

  
Senator Pete Domenici

  
Senator Jeff Bingaman

  
Representative Heather Wilson

  
Representative Tom Udall

  
Representative Stevan Pearce